

REMARKS

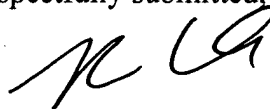
Claims 1-26 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 11 and 14-26. Further, the Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 6-8, and 10 include patentable subject matter since these claims would be allowed if rewritten into independent form to include the limitations of the base and applicable intervening claims.

Solely to advance prosecution for exemplary embodiments of the invention, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 12, and 13 to include the patentable features of claim 2 (now canceled). Also, Applicants have rewritten claim 10 into independent form, as well as canceled withdrawn claims 27-55. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the application is in immediate form for allowance.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 2, 2006